



U.S. Department of Justice

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GILMANTON MAN FOUND GUILTY OF DRUG TRAFFICKING CONSPIRACY

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE: United States Attorney Tom Colantuono, NH State Police Colonel Gary Sloper, Manchester, NH Police Chief John Jaskolka, and the Drug Enforcement Agency New England Field Division's Special Agent in Charge Mark Trouville, announced that Corey D. Wiggin, age 24, of Gilmanton, NH, was convicted of Conspiracy to Distribute Five Kilograms or more of Cocaine in United States District Court in Concord. The jury verdict came after a six-day jury trial. Wiggin was one of nine defendants charged in an Indictment and Superseding Indictment returned by a federal grand jury sitting in Concord. The trial was presided over by U.S. District Judge Steven McAuliffe.

The defendant, who had been released on bail since his arrest last February, 2002, was immediately taken into custody after the verdict. His sentencing will be held on December 18, 2003. The defendant faces a minimum mandatory ten year prison sentence and a potential maximum sentence of life in prison. The defendant could also be fined as much as \$4 million.

U. S. Attorney Colantuono stated, "This case is the product of a two-year investigation of a multi-kilogram cocaine trafficking organization based in Lawrence, MA, Manchester, NH, and the Lakes Region of New Hampshire. The case included a 60 day federal wire intercept, months of physical surveillance conducted by all agencies involved, and various other investigative techniques. Mr. Wiggin was a primary cocaine distributor in a state-wide cocaine distribution organization which was as difficult to penetrate as any drug trafficking organization this state has seen. This case is a fine example of the perseverance and hard work of all agencies involved."

Several other alleged members of the conspiracy are scheduled to be tried in November, 2003. The New Hampshire State Police Narcotics Investigative Unit, the Manchester, NH Police Department, and the Drug Enforcement Administration investigated this case. The investigation is continuing. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Clyde Garrigan, and Mark Irish.